

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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NASA:JZIMMERMAN

ARA/BR:RELTZ (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

UNCLAS STATE 055448

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TPHY, PFOR, GY

SUBJECT:GOG REQUEST FOR LANDSAT PHOTOS OF GUYANA

REF: GEORGETOWN 378

1. DEPT OFFICER CONTACTED LEO BRACONNIER AT EROS DATA CENTER REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF LANDSAT (FORMERLY EROS) PHOTOS OF GUYANA. BRACONNIER CONFIRMED THAT GUYANESE TELFER AND ARCHER SPENT APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK AT EROS DATA CENTER IN DEC, 1975, REVIEWING COMPLETE LISTING OF AVAILABLE IMAGES OF GUYANA AND SURROUNDING AREA. THE COMPUTER LISTING PROVIDED GOG OFFICIALS REMAINS CURRENT.

2. SINCE AREA OVER GUYANA USUALLY OBSCURED BY HEAVY CLOUD COVER, LANDSAT SATELLITES HAVE DIFFICULTY OBTAINING ADEQUATE DATA DURING THEIR PASSES OVER OR NEAR GUYANA.

3. FROM BEST INFO, MAJOR PORTION OF GUYANA LIES WITHIN THE COVERAGE CIRCLE OF THE BRAZILIAN LANDSAT STATION AT UNCLASSIFIED

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CUIABA. THIS STATION SHOULD BE OBTAINING CURRENT DATA

CONCERNING GUYANA. UNDER THE TERMS OF NASA'S AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL, THE GOB IS REQUIRED TO MAKE LANDSAT DATA

AVAILABLE ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. DEPT RECOMMENDS THAT INTERESTED GOG OFFICIALS MAKE DIRECT ARRANGEMENTS WITH DR. FERNANDO DE MENDONCA, DIRECTOR GENERAL, INSTITUTO DE PESQUISAS ESPACIAIS, C.P. 515 SAO JOSE DOS CAMPOS, SAO PAULO, BRAZIL, FOR OBTAINING AVAILABLE DATA ON GUYANA.

4. GUYANESE SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT LANDSAT DATA ON AREAS OUTSIDE THE STATION COVERAGE IS LIMITED BY ON-BOARD TAPE RECORDER CAPACITY. THE TAPE RECORDER TIME IS OVER-COMMITTED FOR USE BY PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS ON THE PROGRAM. AREAS, SUCH AS GUYANA, OUTSIDE THE AREAS OF INTEREST ARE THEREFORE UNLIKELY TO BE COVERED, AND DATA IS SPARCE. PLEASE ASSURE INTERESTED GOG OFFICIALS THAT WHATEVER COVERAGE IS OBTAINED BY LANDSAT THROUGH NASA IS AVAILABLE THROUGH EROS DATA CENTER ON A ROUTINE BASIS. KISSINGER

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